

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The present Amendment is in response to the Office Action having a mailing date of August 2, 2004. Claims 1-13 are pending in the present Application. Applicant has amended claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 12. Applicant has also canceled claims 4, 8, and 11. Consequently, claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-10, and 12-13 remain pending in the present Application.

This application is under Final Rejection. Applicant has presented arguments hereinbelow that Applicant believes should render the claims allowable. In the event, however, that the Examiner is not persuaded by Applicant's arguments, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the Amendment to clarify issues upon appeal.

In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 11-12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant gratefully appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 11-12 contain allowable subject matter.

Applicant has amended independent claim 7 to incorporate the limitations of claim 11 and intervening claim 8. Consequently, Applicant has canceled claims 8 and 11. Applicant has also amended to claims 9 and 12 to depend upon claim 7 instead of claims 8 and 11, respectively. Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claim 4 and to harmonize claim 1 with claim 7. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added and that no new search is required.

Applicant has amended claims 3 and 10 to correct minor errors. Consequently, applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to claims 3 and 10 do not require a new search and do not add new matter.

In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 3 and 10. Applicant has amended claim 3 and 10 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Accordingly,

Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's objections to claims 3 and 10 have been addressed.

Claim 7 includes the limitations of claim 11 and intervening claim 8. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 7 is allowable as currently presented. Furthermore, claim 1 is analogous to claim 7. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is also allowable as currently presented.


Claims 2-3 and 5-6 depend upon independent claim 1. Claims 9-10 and 12-13 depend upon independent claim 7. Consequently, claims 2-3, 5-6, 9-10, and 12-13 are also allowable as currently presented.

Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP

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Date



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